

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

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February 3, 2004

**FROM: BARBARA HALSEY, DIRECTOR
JOBS AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

**SUBJECT: GRANT AWARD FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT TO FUND WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT RAPID RESPONSE
ACTIVITIES IN SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY DURING PROGRAM YEAR 2003-2004**

RECOMMENDATION: Accept a grant award from the State of California Employment Development Department in the amount of \$504,906 to fund Workforce Investment Act Rapid Response activities in San Bernardino County from October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2004.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: On May 20, 2003 the Board of Supervisors approved San Bernardino County Workforce Investment Act Subgrant Agreement R485301, which allows for the receipt of funding from the State Employment Development Department (EDD) to support programs operated by Jobs and Employment Services Department (JESD) under the Department of Labor's Workforce Investment Act (WIA). As a required component of the WIA, Rapid Response encompasses the activities necessary to plan and deliver services that enable dislocated workers to transition to new employment as quickly as possible following a permanent business closure, mass layoff, or a natural or other disaster resulting in a mass job dislocation. Funding may also be utilized to provide businesses with services that are designed to avert closures and/or to reduce or eliminate the need for lay-offs.

On July 9, 2003, the State issued Information Bulletin Number WIAB03-3 to inform Local Workforce Investment Areas that WIA Rapid Response Bridge funds had been unilaterally modified into their subgrant agreements as a first installment of their Program Year 2003-04 Rapid Response funding. San Bernardino County received \$40,061 in Rapid Response Bridge funding through this unilateral modification process. On August 19, 2003 the Board of Supervisors ratified the action of the Chairman authorizing submission of four grant applications to the State EDD in the total amount of \$775,023 for the continued funding of required and allowable Rapid Response activities in San Bernardino County. The State funded three of the grant applications, and issued a modification on December 23, 2003 to add WIA Rapid Response funds in the amount of \$464,845 to San Bernardino County WIA Subgrant Agreement R485301. Combined with the first installment of \$40,061, the total amount awarded to San Bernardino County for Program Year 2003-04 Rapid Response activities is \$504,906. JESD received notification of the grant award on December 29, 2003, which precluded approval of this action prior to the October 1, 2003 effective date. The unilateral modification did not require the Board of Supervisors' signature.

Approval of this action will allow JESD to accept the funds from the State EDD in the amount of \$504,906, in accordance with County Policy #15-03. The funds, which are available from October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2004, will be used to support countywide activities undertaken in response to layoffs and closures of local businesses that address the needs of employers and dislocated workers; to offset the costs of developing and publishing the *Occupational Outlook* and *5-Year Jobs Outlook*; and to implement a collaborative project to inform public sector human resource personnel, department heads, and organized labor in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties about the outplacement services available to them in the event of substantial layoffs.

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors

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REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY OTHERS: This item was reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel (Regina A. Coleman, Deputy County Counsel, 909-387-3266) on January 16, 2004; and was reviewed by the County Administrative Office (Patricia M. Cole, Administrative Analyst III, 909-387-5346) on January 23, 2004.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The revenue of \$504,906 is included in the Department's Fiscal Year 2003-04 Budget (SAC/JOB). The Department's revenue and appropriations do not need to be adjusted for this grant. This item imposes no local cost.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): All

PRESENTER: Barbara Halsey, Director, JESD (909-388-4389)